

Appl. No. 10/068,721

Amndt. dated July 16, 2004

Reply to Office action of April 26, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An airbag apparatus, comprising:

an airbag module including an airbag configured to expand by gas inflation;

at least one covering device having a closing position and an open position;

~~an airbag configured to expand by gas inflation,~~ said airbag being accommodated behind said at least one covering device when said at least one covering device is in the closing position;

a mechanism configured to pull said at least one covering device from the closing position to the open position in order to allow an expansion of the airbag;

said mechanism (M) including a first mechanism component (M1), which is ~~coupled~~ firmly connected to the airbag module (B),

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